Correspondence of: Mrs. Theodore D. Cravens
1433 Bellefountaine St.
Indianapolis IN

Butler Co Ohio Pg 755:

B. F Bowen 1905 Publisher

Abraham G. Clendenin

Paternally A. G.C. was descended from
sturdy Dutch stock as his genealogy in this
county goes back to the colonial period
some time prior to the Revolution - 3 bros
Isaac - John and Wm Clendenin left their
native home in the Emerald Isle & came
to America. Isaac settling in Pennsylvania -
where he married the daughter a Welch
Dutch immigrant & engaged in the mercantile
business - Here spent the remainder of his
life in that city - George Clendenin son
of Isaac and the father of Abraham of this
sketch was born in N. Jersey - When a young
man - went to N.Y. City where he
devoted his active life to teaming and
draying - He married Nancy Drake
and reared a family of 6 children only two
of whom survive - Abraham & Elizabeth,
widow of the late Geo Strawt - who at

his death was one of the wealthier men
in N. Y. city - Abrahm Clendenin was
b in N. Y. City - Nov 27 - 1822 -
He learned to be a blacksmith - In 1845
he came to Ohio - locating in Franklin
In 1858 he established a shop of his own
at Xenia - across the River in Middletown
Later he went to Middletown Buildr
Co - - His business interests fill a page
or two - He was married 1850
to Margaret Pierce
b near Winchester Va July 13 1826 -
her parents coming to Ohio 1832
They had 8 ch. 3 living in
Frank P. Sept 6 - 1852 -
Henry H. June 13 - 1856 -
James L. Oct 23 1860 -
Abrahm G - Clendenin d Oct 4 1903 -

By locating the sister Elizabeth - widow of
George Strout desc - of New York City
or - Isaac of Princeton - three records -
You might connect up on the other
two of the three brothers -

In census 1790 Pennsylvania Cumberland
Adam 168 – Northampton Co
John 246 Washington "
Adam 137 – Lancaster "
John 183 Northumberland "
James 132 Mifflin Co
John 81 Cumberland Co –
John 191 Northumberland Co
Samuel 82 Cumberland
Elizabeth 26 Philadelphia Co
John 206 " "

207 West St.
Coudersport. Pa.
June 7th 1920-

Mrs. Theodore W. Craven
Indianapolis. Ind.

My dear Mrs. Craven:

I suppose you are so used to inquiries from people hunting D.A.R. lines, that one more encroachment on your good nature, will be forgiven. I have been told you would perhaps help me in some inquiries. My ancestors being Quakers no

Anna Mann Hartwell

Luther Binney Mann 4

John Smith Mann

John Mann

John King

Lydia Battin

John Mann

Margaret

Richard Battin

Elizabeth

Mary Smith

Joseph Smith

Elinor

Mary Williams King 3

John King

Francis King

Katherine Kenyon

John King

Elizabeth Marshall

Robt. King

Elizabeth [redacted] Boothman

Francis Marshall

Patience Peachy

Hannah Clendenon 2

Robt. Clendenon

Elizabeth Battin

Isaac Clendenon

Phoebe Nichols

Robt. Clendenon

Debora Fisher

Marbie Jane Hopkins

Edward Howell Hopkins

Norman Hopkins

Charlotte Jane Howell

Edward Howell

Rachel Carpenter

Teresa Hopkins

Anthony Foster

Jane Foster

my paternal side, make me rather doubtful of finding what I want, but no harm in trying.

I do not know whether you can make head or tail of the enclosed, but it starts with myself, my father and mother, and sub-divisions, as far as I know them.

My mother's people came from New England; some where, John Mann, English; Scotch came from Ireland.

I am anxious to find a W.A.R. line. If you can help me any, I shall be more than grateful.

Yours very truly

(Mrs.) Nora Mann Hartwell
207 West St.
Coudersport.
Pa.

GLENDENNIN

Jefferson City, Tenn.
Jan. 23, 1929

Mrs. Theodore D. Craven,
4656 Hinesley Ave.,
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Mrs. Craven:

Your letter was received a few days ago and I shall endeavor to make reply to some of it.

In regard to the Jaffe family, I know very little and am not situated to get around very much so it is a little hard to get to the C. H. records. I do not work especially on my own lines. However, I am going to give you the name of Mrs. John D. Jaffe, Dandridge, Tenn. I think she would be glad to give you anything she can. That is the only Jaffe family I know. We have marked some Rev. soldiers in Dandridge, and

It seems some others have been found. There is no D.A.R. Chapter in this county.

I am going to give you my Clendenin history so far as I have it. The family is of Scotch ancestry and in an old Bible in the possession of John Haugh Clendenin of Wichita, Kan. it is recorded that three brothers John, Charles, and James, born in Dumfries, Scotland, came to America sometime between 1730 & 1750. One of these was among the earliest settlers of Cumberland Valley, Pa.

In January 1743 some of the inhabitants of ye township of Pennsborough petitioned the court of Lancaster for a road and among the names appended to the petition was that of John Clendenin.

Cumberland Co. was formed in Jan. 1750 and among the taxables of East Pennsborough township that year was that of John Clendenin.

After this the name of John Clendenin appears regularly among the taxables.

In 1825 Silver Springs Township was formed out of East Pennsborough, and after that John Clendenin was assessed in Silver Spring Township.

John Clendenin made his will in 1783, August in which certain designated parts were surveyed to his sons John & Samuel.

In 1750 Samuel Huston appears on the tax list of East Pennsborough. In 1752 he took out a warrant for 200 acres of land not far from John Clendenin who had married Jane Huston, a sister of Samuel Huston. John & James Huston Clendenin had children as follows: John, William, Margaret, Jennie, Annie, Mary, Katie, Isabella, Samuel & James.

Isabella m. Thomas Rankin (this is mine).
Samuel m. Polly McBeth, Wellsville, Va. (now W. Va.)
James m. Isabella Huston (1st Cousins).
Daughter of Samuel Huston

The first John Clendenin d. about 1797 aged 93 - his wife Janet d. three

weeks before him and their remains are interred in the Pine Hill Graveyard on the farm which was first owned by Samuel Huston, the brother of James Huston Clendenin. You see I have these records clear back to my gr. gr. grandparents. What I should want would be back of that and whether they are Rev. Soldiers. I am eligible to D. A. R. but have not joined because I am not situated to attend and be active. I am a Magna Carta Dame.

Thanking you, I am

Very sincerely,

Luriana Franklin.

Jefferson City, Tenn
Feb. 2, 1937

Dear Mrs. Craven,

Thanks so much for the clippings which I am returning. If you can get those war records of the Confederates and Hustons I'll will be quite grand.

It would be fine if I could find my Confederate brother & the two in these clippings. I shall copy a good bit from them. I am not situated close to any good reference library and am not able to get out much, so I am handicapped in copying out many things I would like to do.

Sincerely,

Luana H[illegible]

Eastridge Farm
Jefferson City, Tennessee

Jefferson City, Tenn
Feb. 2, 1937

Dear Mrs. Craven,

Thanks so much for the clippings which I am returning. If you can get those was recorded of the Clendenins and Hustons it will be quite grand.

It would be fine if I could find my Clendenin & brother & the two in these clippings. I shall copy a good bit from them. I am not situated close to any good reference library and am not able to ask out much, so I am handicapped in copying out many things I should like to do.

Sincerely
Luana Franklin

Clendennin Family

History and Genealogy of Pioneers

This is the second and last installment of the history and genealogy of the Clendenin family. The history of another family will be used next Sunday.

When Kanawha county was established, there were seven log houses and about thirty inhabitants in Charleston, which became the seat of government of a vast territory of about ten thousand square miles. At first, the fort was used as a courthouse. At the first election, there were 13 votes cast. It took three weeks to count them. They were sufficient to send George Clendennin and Andrew Donnally to the Virginia legislature. At the next election, 1791, George Clendennin and Daniel Boone were sent. To Boone's mind, horseback riding over mountains was harder than walking, so he shouldered his rifle, stuck a knife in his belt and footed it to Richmond. Liking neither city life, nor lawmaking, he did not remain long, and returned, as he went, to his cabin on the south bank of the Kanawha river.

On January 1, 1791, George Clendennin wrote Governor Randolph, as follows:

"I beg leave to request the honorable board to consider the peculiar condition of the county of Kanawha, and the disposition the Indians have lately exercised against it, and that you and the board will indulge the county with four scouts in case the general government may not make such arrangements as the exposed situation may require. This number, I am certain, is not sufficient, but they would be of great service to alarm the inhabitants of the approach of the enemy so as to enable them to collect together to secure themselves from savage cruelty. I feel disposed to make this last request from the most tender motives of affection for my own family and the lives of my friends and neighbors equally exposed."

George Clendennin was appointed county lieutenant; William Clendennin, major, and Alexander Clendennin, ensign, in the county military force organized for protection against Indian attack.

On the nineteenth of December, 1794, through an act of the legislature, Charleston became a town. Reuben Slaughter, Andrew Donnally, William Clendennin, John Morris, George Alderson, Abraham Baker, John Young and William Morris were appointed trustees.

In 1790, the aged father of the Clendennin brothers died and was buried near the fort. He had four sons and one daughter. They were:

George, who married Jemima McNeal; William, married Margaret Handly; Robert; Alexander, married Katherine Spencer and Mary Ellen, who married Major John Cantrell.

Three of his sons fought in the battle of Point Pleasant—George, William and Alexander.

ALEXANDER CLENDENNIN

Alexander Clendennin, son of Charles Clendennin, was born in Augusta county, Virginia in 1754. He was a soldier under General Andrew Lewis, and came to the Kanawha valley with his father and brothers. In 1785 he married Katherine Spencer. In 1785 he settled at Eight Mile in Mason county above Point Pleasant. He died in 1840 and is buried in the Swann burying ground. His children were Lucinda, born in 1787, married William Lewis and died in Jackson county; George, born in 1791, served in the War of 1812. He married Margaret Lewis and died at Letart in 1832; Leander, married Betsy Lewis, descended from Benjamin Lewis; Julia, born in 1797, married Isaac Lemaster; John, born in 1802, married Sarah Edwards. He died in 1864.

Robert Clendennin, son of Charles Clendennin, was born in 1750 and came to the mouth of Elk river in 1786. He was appointed one of the justices of Kanawha county.

GEORGE CLENDENNIN

George Clendennin was a high type among the pioneers of the Kanawha valley. He was sober, thoughtful, intelligent and educated; a leader who never avoided his responsibilities. He was an exemplary son and built for his father the best house in the town, where he entertained travellers. Charles Johnston, in his "Narratives of Indian Captivities" tells of his trip from Virginia to the Ohio river. He wrote:

"Our boat, or ark, for which we bargained at Kelley's station was not ready to receive us until the lapse of several days. We were invited by Colonel Clendennin, who resided at the mouth of Elk river, to spend this interval with him. At his house our time was passed in the utmost comfort, [illegible] enhanced by the liberal [illegible] and cordial hospitality with which we were entertained by him and Mrs. Clendennin."

It was the general practice of parties bound for the Ohio river to have boats or barges built at Kelley's Creek boat yard or Charleston to convey them down the river.

In 1795, George Clendennin, finding that the affairs of the town which he had founded were more than sufficient to occupy his time and attention, sold to Joseph Ruffner all the 1,030 acre tract, with the exception of the town lots. Two years later, while on a visit to his daughter, Parthenia, in Marietta, he died.

Colonel George Clendennin married Jemima McNeal, said to be the half sister of Thomas Ewing, of Ohio. They had three daughters, Scynthia, Parthenia and Mary.

Scynthia, or Cynthia, married James Lamb and went with him to Kentucky. There is a story told by descendants of Parthenia that her father chose for her a husband whom she did not wish to marry. Against her will, she was made to accept his ring. Parthenia received his ring with her tongue in her cheek, for as soon as the despised suitor left the veranda of their house on the bank of the Kanawha river, Parthenia ran to the river and tossed his ring into the water. Then she returned to the house and told her father that she would marry none but the man she loved, and on the fourth of July, 1797, she eloped with John Meigs, of Ohio. She sent word to her father, "This is my Declaration of Independence." On July 4, 1808, John Meigs died at a hotel table in Cincinnati, and Parthenia later married Major Andrew Bryan, whose father had come from Bottetourt county, Virginia, to settle in the Kanawha valley.

Parthenia Clendennin and John Meigs had three children—Teressa Meigs who married Rev. Fielding Pope of Marietta; Return Johnathan Meigs who married Sally Keyes Love; Captain Joseph Vincent Meigs who married Miss E. G. Shaffer.

Teressa Meigs and Fielding Pope had six children—Cynthia Eliza, married Jesse Wallace; Teressa Charlotte, married Robert Patton; Parthenia Clendennin; Mary Elizabeth Mahala, married William B. Ewing; Fielding Meigs, a physician; Return Johnathan, married first Fannie Crow and then Sally Love, of Tennessee.

Return Jonathan Megis became a distinguished lawyer in Nashville. Because of his union sympathy during the war between the states he was obliged to leave the state, and was appointed by President Lincoln, clerk of the District of Columbia.

Return Jonathan Meigs and Sally Love had four children. They were:

James Lamme Meigs, born in 1827, married Katherine Kirkpatrick; Return Jonathan Meigs, born in 1830, married Elizabeth Martin and had three children, Mary Briscoe, born 1858; Return Jonathan, 1860 and Jane, 1865. John Meigs, 1834, married Sallie Orton. He was a librarian and a scholar. He had four children. They were:

John, born 1875, Orton Love, born 1877, Bertha, and Maude.

Captain Joe Vincent Meigs, born 1840, married Eugenia Beatrice Shaffer of Nashville. He commanded the first battery of artillery in the war between the states. He had three children, Dr. Joseph Vincent Meigs, of Boston, a surgeon, Benjamin Meigs, married Carrie Huse, and Return Jonathan.

The children of Parthenia Clendennin and Major Andrew Bryan were Mary Clendennin Bryan, married John McCulloch; Cynthia Bryan; James Bryan, said to be the ancestor of William Jennings Bryan; Elizabeth Bryan.

WILLIAM CLENDENNIN

William Clendennin, the favorite brother of George Clendennin, served with him under General Lewis and fought with distinguished bravery at Point Pleasant. There is a story told of him, that his life was saved in the battle by a pair of Indian moccasins which he picked up from the field and thrust into his hunting shirt. He followed his brother to the Kanawha valley and became one of the justices when the county was organized. He was sheriff of the county for the years 1792-3, and was one of the trustees of the town of Charleston. Three times he represented the county in the Virginia legislature—1796, 1801, 1803.

In 1802, William Clendennin purchased from General Hugh Mercer, part of a military grant of land on the Ohio river opposite Gallipolis and moved there with his son, Charles. They built the first hewed log house in the Clendennin district. While in the Virginia legislature as a delegate he carried a petition to Richmond, asking for the establishment of a new county, the result of which was the separation of Mason county from Kanawha in 1804. He was not only the first representative of the new county of Mason but one of its first justices. William Clendennin died in 1828, aged 76. His wife, Margaret Handley, died in 1833, aged 76. They were of sturdy stock. They had four children—Charles, Sophia, Elizabeth and Anne.

Charles Clendennin, born 1808, married Marion Tillaye, whose sister was the ancestor of the Ruby family in Charleston. One cold day in February, 1846, while a steamboat, which he owned, was backing out of Point Pleasant, he disappeared in the icy water. A man on the bank, heard his cry for help. Though an expert swimmer, he never came to the surface. His children were:

Charles, John Baptiste, May, who married Dr. John Morgan and moved to California. The other children of Charles and Sophia Neale were Jo[illegible] Cynthia, Sallie, Emily, Charles, [illegible] went to California; Margaret, Rachel and James Edward Beale Clendennin, who married Agnes A. Sterrett in 1862, and had two children. Sophia Elizabeth, married George Wallis, of Apple-Grove, and Charles Washington.

Sophia, the daughter of William, first married John Miller; their son, Charles E. Miller, married Jemima Cantrell. Her sister, Anna Clendennin married Henry Miller.

Other children of William and Margaret Clendennin were John, Andrew and Elizabeth, who married John Bing, of Cheshire, Ohio, and had a large family, among whom was Martha, who married a Filson from whom are descended the Filsons of Point Pleasant.

ELEN MARY CLENDENNIN

Elen Mary Clendennin married John Cantrill. She was born in Augusta county on the Ben Borden grant in 1752. She later married Captain George Stephenson. He was the last surviver of the Mason county riflemen in the War of 1812. They were the parents of James Stephenson of Point Pleasant, a Union soldier.

The only child of Mary Clendennin and John Cantrill was Major John Cantrill. At the age of 14, he went to Ohio with his mother and lived on a farm, now owned by Thomas Fowler. He learned the carpenter's trade and assisted in building the home of Herman Blennerhassett. In 1802, he married his first cousin, Mary Clendennin and in the same year, settled on the banks of the Kanawha river two and a half miles from its mouth. In 1883, the old two story house was still standing near Lock two. At this time [illegible] the Kanawha between Charleston and Point Pleasant—one at the mouth of Coal river and the other at Cooper's block house, eight miles from the mouth of the Kanawha. Major Cantrill had one daughter, Jemima, who married her cousin, Charles Clendennin Miller and lived near Point Pleasant., the son of John Miller and Sophia Clendennin.

Major Cantrill was one of the first justices of Mason county. He represented Mason county in the Virginia assembly for ten years. In 1811, he was commissioned major in the Virginia militia and during the War of 1812 had charge of government stores at Point Pleasant. In 1830 he was elected high sheriff of Mason county. He died in 1863.

Clendennin Family

History and Genealogy of Pioneers

This is the first of two articles on the Clendennin family, first settlers in Charleston. The second will appear next Sunday.

The history of Charleston begins with the Clendennins, a Scotch family who came to America from Scotland some time prior to 1755.

There were three brothers who came, Archibald and Charles who settled in the Ben Burden Grant in Augusta county, Virginia. The other, it is believed settled in Baltimore. It is probable that they brought their families with them as George, the son of Charles is known to have been born in Scotland.

In 1762, Archibald and Charles followed the tide of Scotch-Irish immigration from Augusta to Greenbrier county. Archibald settled at Muddy creek and Charles on the Big Sandy.

In the summer of 1763, Thomas Athol and three other men arrived at the house of Archibald Clendennin. Under their protection was a ragged, emaciated woman, whom they had discovered, half starved and utterly exhausted from a long journey of escape from Indian captivity. She was Hannah Dennis who had been captured three years before by a party of Shawnees and taken to Ohio. Living among the Indians, she conformed to their customs, dressed and painted herself as they did and learned their language.

Withers in his account, says "she professed witchcraft and affected to be a prophetess. In this manner, she conducted herself and she became so great a favorite with them that they gave her full liberty and honored her as a queen. Nothwithstanding this, Mrs. Dennis was always determined to effect her escape, when a favorable opportunity should occur; and having remained so long with them, apparently well satisfied, they ceased to entertain any suspicions of such a design.

"In June 1763, she left the Chileicothe towns, ostensibly to gather herbs for medicinal purposes (as she had frequently done before), but really to escape. As she did not return that night, her intentions became suspected, and in the morning some warriors were sent in pursuit of her. In order to leave as little trail as possible, she had crossed the Scioto river three times, and was just getting over the fourth time forty miles below the towns when she was discovered by her pursuers. They fired at her across the river without effect, but in endeavoring to make a rapid flight, she had one of her feet severely cut by a sharp stone.

The Indians then rushed across the river to overtake and capture her but she eluded them by crawling into the hollow limb of a large fallen sycamore. They searched around for her some time, even stepping on the log which concealed her, and encamped near it that night. On the next day they went on to the Ohio river and finding no trace of her, they returned home.

"Mrs. Dennis remained at that place three days, doctoring her wound, and then set off for home. She crossed the Ohio at the mouth of the Great Kanawha on a log of drift-wood, and travelled only by night for fear of discovery. She subsisted on roots, herbs, green grapes, wild cherries, and river mussels—and entirely exhausted by fatigue and hunger, sat down by the side of the Greenbrier river, with no expectation of ever proceeding further. In this situation, she was found by Thomas Athol and three others from Clendennin's settlement, which she had passed without knowing it. She had been then upwards of 20 days on her disconsolate journey."

The Clendennins gave her shelter and cared for her. When she was able to travel, they put her on a pack horse and sent her on to her relatives at Fort Young on the Jackson river.

INDIAN MASSACRE

It was shortly after this that an Indian raid was made upon the Greenbrier colony, possibly having its origin in the pursuit of Mrs. Dennis.

According to Kercheval, a party of Indians, about 60 in number, stopped at Muddy creek professing friendship. It was a common practice among the Indians, to visit the settlers and demand food and shelter. Archibald Clendennin, wishing to be on good terms with the Indians, provided them with food and offered them every courtesy and entertainment. When the Indians moved from Muddy creek to the Levels where Archibald Clendennin lived (the farm of Ballard Smith), they found Clendennin just returned from a hunt with three elk, and between 80 and 100 people, men, women and children gathered to partake of the feast.

The Indians were invited to join them and there was no evidence of their murderous intent, until an old woman with a sore leg, complained of her trouble to one of the Indians and asked if he knew anyway to relieve it. He said that he could easily do so, and drawing his tomahawk, instantly killed her.

It was the signal for attack and the massacre was cruel. Only two men escaped,—John Ewing, a brother of Mrs. Clendennin and Conrad Yolkom. Archibald Clendennin was killed while getting over a fence with his child in his arms. Amid the confusion and horror, Mrs. Clendennin did not lose her courage. She berated the Indians and called them cowards even though the tomahawk was brandished over her head, and her face lashed with her husband's bloody sclap. The house was burned and the prisoners were taken back to Muddy creek, where they were kept until the maurauding parties returned with other prisoners. They were then all taken off together.

Going over the mountains at the foot of Keeney's Knob, Mrs. Clendennin gave her infant to Mrs. Jones to hold and escaped into a thicket without being observed. The cries of the child called attention to the absence of the mother and one of the Indians said, he would bring the cow to its calf. Taking the child by its heels he beat it against a tree and threw it in the path of the cavalcade, where it was trampled to pieces by the horses.

Mrs. Clendennin returned that night to her home about ten miles distant. She found her husband's body with his dog keeping watch beside it. She buried her husband as best she could and then went into the corn field to hide and sleep. There tortured by fear and horror, she could find neither sleep nor rest, so leaving the place she struggled on, through brush and brier to safety at Young's Fort.

Seven years afterwards, when under a treaty with the Indians, it was specified that all prisoners be restored to their homes, the daughter of Archibald Clendennin was returned. Her mother at first refused to recognize or acknowledge her until certain marks of identity convinced her and she finally accepted her. Her son, John, a bright, attractive little fellow had been tomahawked by an Indian brave, because of a dispute between two squaws over his possession.

The home of Charles Clendennin was overlooked in this raid, and his family thus escaped extinction. In 1774, General Andrew Lewis, recruiting as he proceeded, marched across the western frontier to join Lord Dunmore's army in a campaign against the Indians. He stopped at Fort Donnally where Charles Clendennin and his sons enlisted. The troops proceeded across the mountains along the serpentine buffalo trail down Gauley to Kelly's creek where the Morris family had a fort. They enlisted some of the Morris men and went on down the river to the mouth of Elk, where they camped long enough to build canoes, or dugouts to carry their supplies and relieve the horses that had become worn out with scrambling up and down the precipitous mountain trails. Charles Clendennin's son, George, in the interval between building and loading, took time to examine and explore the beautiful fertile valley and he never forgot it. He was to see it again in 1786 when he was one of the state commissioners, laying out and constructing the first wagon road between Lewisburg and the Kanawha valley. This road was called [illegible]'s new road.

Kanawha Settlement

In 1788, George Clendennin become a man of importance and influence in Greenbrier county. With Colonel John Stuart, he was sent that year to the Constitutional convention in Richmond where he voted for the federation of states. Here he met Cuthbert Bullitt under whom he had served during the revolution and bought from him the 1030-acre tract of land on which Charleston now stands.

George Clendennin lost no time in organizing his party to make a settlement, for in the spring of that year, we find him on the ground, in company with his brothers, William, Robert and Alexander, together with Josiah Harrison, Francis Watkins, Shadrack Harriman, John McClung, John Edwards and Lewis Tacket. They immediately built a residential blockhouse and a picket fort with six or seven small houses around it. A small blockhouse was later built about a mile up the river for the protection of Clendennin's tenants and farm hands.

The Rev. Joseph Dodridge describes the typical fort of the western frontier as follows:

"The fort consisted of cabins, blockhouse and stockades. A range of cabins commonly formed one side at least of the fort. Divisions, or partitions of logs, separated the cabins from each other. The walls on the outside were 10 or 12 feet high, the slope of the roof being turned wholly inward. A very few of these cabins had puncheon floors; the greater part were earthen.

"The blockhouses were built at the angles of the fort. They projected about two feet beyond the outer walls of the cabins and stocades. Their upper stories were about 18 inches every way larger in dimension than the under one, leaving an opening at the commencement of the second story, to prevent the enemy from making a lodgement under their walls. In some forts, instead of blockhouses the angles of the walls were furnished with bastions. A large folding gate, made of thick slabs nearest the spring, closed the fort. The stocades, bastions, cabins and blockhouse walls were furnished with portholes at proper heights and distances. The whole of the outside was bullet proof. . . . In some places less exposed, a single blockhouse with a cabin or two constituted the fort."

The safety of the settlers being now provided for, Clendennin engaged Alexander Welch, surveyor of Greenbrier county to lay off a town of 40 one-acre lots along the north bank of the Kanawha river from Elk to what is now Capitol street and named the town Charlestown in honor of his father.

The fort although officially named Fort Lee in honor of Richard Henry Lee was commonly known as Clendennin's fort.

NEW COUNTY FORMED

For the recording of deeds and entering surveys, the settlers of the Kanawha valley had to make the dangerous and wearisome trip to Lewisburg the county seat of Greenbrier. George Clendennin therefore petitioned the legislature for a new county, and in 1789, Kanawha county was established.

The first court convened at the house of George Clendennin and the gentlemen justices were sworn in and qualified as members of the court. They were Thomas Lewis, Robert Clendennin, Francis Watkins, Charles McClung, Bejamin Strother, William Clendennin, David Robertson, George Alderson, Leonard Morris and James Van Bibber. All having taken oath, the first court for Kanawha county convened for the first business.

Thomas Lewis came into the court and presented a commission from the governor, appointing him sheriff, and gave bond for one thousand pounds. William Clendennin and William Arbuckle, his surety, took oath of office. William H. Cavendish, a distinguished scholar and accountant, who had come from the Shenandoah valley for the purpose of arranging county records, was then appointed clerk of the county.

Then it was ordered that Abner Prior and Joseph Woods be recommended to the governor to execute the office of justice of the peace. The next in order of business, Andrew Anderson was recommended to be appointed constable at Bellville and Amos Morris at Point Pleasant. Then Reuben Slaughter was recommended to the court by the president of professors of William and Mary college as a suitable person to execute the office of surveyor of lands in this county. Benjamin Strother, David Robinson and John Van Bibber were then appointed commissioners of the revenue.